

expungement of the court conviction in the nature of granting of clemency or other relief after the conviction has become final, without regard to whether punishment was imposed.

Subpart I—Reopening of Hearings

§ 5.601 Petition to reopen hearing.

(a) A respondent may petition to reopen the hearing on the basis of newly discovered evidence or on the basis of being unable to present evidence due to the respondent's inability to appear at the hearing through no fault of the respondent and due to circumstances beyond the respondent's control.

(b) The filing of a petition does not stay an existing order of the Administrative Law Judge. However, if filed within 30 days after the effective date of the Administrative Law Judge's decision, it will toll or defer the running of the 30-day statutory period of appeal as provided in subpart J of this part until the Administrative Law Judge has acted on the petition.

[CGD 82-002, 50 FR 32184, Aug. 9, 1985; 50 FR 35228, Aug. 30, 1985]

§ 5.603 Procedures for submitting petition.

(a) The procedures for submitting a petition based on newly discovered evidence are as follows:

(1) A petition to reopen the hearing may be submitted at any time prior to a final decision on appeal or within one year of the effective date of the Administrative Law Judge's decision.

(2) If an appeal to the Commandant from the Administrative Law Judge's decision has not been filed, the petition must be addressed to the Administrative Law Judge. If an appeal to the Commandant has been filed, the petition must be submitted to the Commandant.

(3) The petition must be in letter form, typewritten or written legibly, and shall contain:

(i) The name of the petitioner, the number and description of the license, certificate and/or document involved, nature of the charge, the decision rendered including the order, and the name of the Administrative Law Judge who heard the case;

(ii) A statement setting forth a description of the newly discovered evidence; and

(iii) A statement as to whether or not this additional evidence was known to the petitioner at the time of the hearing, and reasons why the petitioner, with due diligence, could not have discovered such new evidence prior to the completion of the hearing.

(b) The procedures for submitting a petition on the basis of inability to appear at the hearing are as follows:

(1) A petition to reopen the hearing may be submitted within 30 days of the effective date of the Administrative Law Judge's decision.

(2) If an appeal to the Commandant from the Administrative Law Judge's decision has not been filed, the petition must be addressed to the Administrative Law Judge. If an appeal to the Commandant has been filed, the petition must be submitted to the Commandant.

(3) The petition must be in letter form, typewritten or written legibly, and shall contain:

(i) The name of the petitioner, the number and description of the license, certificate and/or document involved, nature of the charge, the decision rendered including the order, and the name of the Administrative Law Judge who heard the case;

(ii) A statement setting forth a description of the evidence the petitioner would have offered at the hearing; and

(iii) A statement as to why the petitioner was unable to appear at the hearing including why the petitioner did not seek a change in the time or place for opening of the hearing.

§ 5.605 Action on petition.

(a) The Administrative Law Judge, or Commandant, as appropriate, forwards a copy of the petition to the investigating officer. The investigating officer is afforded a reasonable time within which to submit written comments as to the merits of the petition.

(b) The Administrative Law Judge, or the Commandant, renders a decision either granting or denying the petition. The decision on the petition will be based on a consideration of the petition, the record of the hearing, and the

investigating officer's comments, if any.

(c) If the Administrative Law Judge grants the petition, the hearing is reopened to allow the offer of the new evidence described in the petition.

(d) If the Commandant grants the petition, the case is remanded to the Administrative Law Judge with directions to reopen the hearing.

(e) When the petition is granted, the Administrative Law Judge withdraws the original decision and renders a new one based on the record of the original hearing and the new evidence received.

(f) The petition, the investigating officer's comments, the Administrative Law Judge's or Commandant's decision on the petition, and the additional evidence will be appended to the original hearing record.

§ 5.607 Appeal from action on petition.

(a) If the petition to reopen the hearing is denied by the Administrative Law Judge, the respondent may appeal to the Commandant within 30 days from the date of service of the denial of the petition. The review by the Commandant on this appeal will be limited to the issues raised by the petition. Other grounds on appeal must be in accordance with subpart J of this part.

(b) If the petition to reopen the hearing is granted and a previous finding of *proved* is affirmed by the Administrative Law Judge, the respondent may appeal the decision as provided for in subpart J of this part.

Subpart J—Appeals

§ 5.701 Appeals in general.

(a) A respondent against whom a finding of *proved* has been rendered may appeal such decision to the Commandant.

(b) The hearing transcript, together with all papers and exhibits filed, shall constitute the record for decision on appeal. The only matters which will be considered by the Commandant on the appeal are:

- (1) Rulings on motions or objections which were not waived during the proceedings;
- (2) Clear errors on the record;
- (3) Jurisdictional questions.

(c) In the preparation of an appeal, the investigating officer's and the Administrative Law Judge's assistance to the appellant will extend only to the point of providing information as to the applicable regulations.

(d) If the respondent requests a copy of the transcript in the notice of appeal and the hearing was recorded or transcribed at government expense, the transcript will be provided upon payment of the fees prescribed in 49 CFR 7.95. If the services of a government contractor were utilized, the transcript must be obtained under the provisions of 49 CFR 7.99.

§ 5.703 Procedures for appeal.

(a) An appeal may be taken only by filing a written notice of appeal within 30 days after service of the complete written decision. This notice of appeal must be filed with the Administrative Law Judge who heard the case or with any Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection for forwarding to the Administrative Law Judge.

(b) The notice of appeal must:

- (1) Be typewritten or written legibly;
 - (2) Be addressed to the Commandant;
- and

(3) Set forth the name of the appellant, the number and description of the license, certificate and/or document involved, and the name of the Administrative Law Judge who heard the case.

(c) The completed appeal must be submitted to the Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard (G-MOA), 2100 2nd St. SW., Washington, DC, 20593 within sixty days after service of the complete written decision, or if a transcript was requested, within 60 days after receipt of the transcript. After this time has elapsed, anything received will not be considered as a part of the appeal record unless an extension of time has been granted in writing by the Commandant and the extended time limit has been met.

(d) The appeal must contain a brief or memorandum setting forth legal and other authorities relied upon. All grounds for appeal or exceptions to the Administrative Law Judge's decision must be described with particularity.

(e) No appeal will be accepted in the case of a revocation or outright suspension if the respondent has not complied